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CATECHISM

WEST AFRICA CONFERENCE,
UNITED BRETHREN
IN CHRIST.

Preface.

For sometime the need has been felt for a simpler and briefer catechism for use in our schools and in giving instruction to those who are seeking the Christian life. At the annual conference held in January 1914, the manuscript for such a catechism was submitted and approved.

An important consideration in compiling this catechism has been to provide a basis for translation, in the vernacular, of christian doctrine and the principles of christian living, herein stated in the simplest terms.

The compilers wish to acknowledge the free use made of other catechisms from which a number of suitable questions and answers were taken. Especial recognition is due to the Rt. Rev. Bishop Tugwell of Western Equitorial Africa for the permission granted us to select from the "Catechism for the Northern Nigeria Mission" (C. M. S.). The section "About Mohammedanism" was taken almost wholly from this catechism, slight changes being made to suit our purpose.

May God grant that the teachings of this little book may be helpful means in leading many to a saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

E. M. Hursh,
Freetown, Sierra Leone.

CATECHISM.

PART I.

SECTION 1.

About God.

1. *Who made you?*
   God made me and all mankind.
2. *Who is God?*
   God is our Father in Heaven.
3. *What is God?*
   God is a Spirit. One that always was and always will be.
4. *Where is God?*
   God is everywhere.
5. *What can God do?*
   God can do whatever He will.
6. *What does God do for you?*
   God gives me life, and health, and food, and everything that I have.
7. *What does God want us to do?*
   God wants us to believe in Him, to love Him, to worship Him, and to serve Him all the days of our life.
8. *Does God know all things?*
   Yes, God knows all things; every thought in man's heart, every word and every action.
9. *Will He call us to account for all that we think and do?*
   At the last day God shall bring every work into judgment, with

every secret thing whether it be good or whether it be evil.

10. Does God love you?

Yes, God loves everything that He has made.

11. What is the character of God?

God is holy, just, and good, and He is full of mercy, love, and truth. (Ex. 4:6).

12. Is there more than one God?

There is but one true God. (Isa. 44:8; I Cor. 8:6).

13. What do we mean by the Trinity?

The Trinity is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, three Persons but one God.

Section 2.

About The Bible.

14. What is the best book in the world?

The Holy Bible.

15. What is the Bible?

The Bible is the word of God written by men as they were taught by the Holy Spirit.

16. Why is it better than other books?

Because God is its author, and because it teaches us important lessons which we find nowhere else.

17. What use should we make of the Bible?

We should read the Bible every

day, and ask God to help us to understand it and obey it.

18. How is the Bible divided?

The Bible is divided into two parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament.

19. What do we learn from the Old Testament?

In the Old Testament we learn about the Creation of the world and God's gradual revelation of Himself through the prophets, preparing for the complete revelation in Christ.

20. What do we read in the New Testament?

In the New Testament we read the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the way of Salvation, and the story of the founding of His Church.

Section 3.

About Man.

21. How did God make man?

God made the body of man out of the dust of the earth.

22. What two parts has every man?

Man has two parts; the body which we can see and touch, and the spirit or soul, which we cannot see.

23. What happen to men after they die?

The body returns to the dust, but the spirit goes back to God.

24. Did his soul come from dust?

No; for the Lord God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.

25. Why did God make man?

God made man that he might know Him, love Him, and serve Him, and be happy with Him forever.

26. What authority was given to man at his creation?

God gave him dominion over every living thing (Gen. 1:28).

27. Where did God put the first man and woman?

God put the first man and woman in the garden of Eden.

28. When man was created what law was given to him?

The law of perfect obedience to the will of God (Gen. 2:16,17).

29. What command did God give to our first parents in the garden of Eden?

He commanded them not to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

30. Did they keep this command?

No: they did eat of the fruit of the tree.

Section 4.

About Sin and Satan.

31. What is sin?

Sin is the transgression of the law of God, or the failure to conform to its holy requirements (I. John 3:4).

32. Who is satan?

Satan, who is called the Devil, is an evil spirit, who rebelled against God in heaven and was cast out.

33. What does Satan do?

Satan deceives people and tempts them to commit sin.

34. Has Satan the power to make us commit sin?

No. Satan can tempt us, but by God's help we can escape from the temptation.

35. Who tempted our first parents to sin?

Satan, the evil spirit. (Gen. 3:1).

36. What was the result of their sin?

They lost the favour of God, were condemned to pain and death, and were driven out of the garden.

37. Did their sin hurt any besides themselves?

Yes: their sin hurt all mankind.

38. How did it hurt them?

By causing them to be born in sin, so that they also suffer pain and death.

39. What do you mean by being born in sin?

We are all born self-willed, and but for the grace of God, inclined only to evil.

40. May we all hope for this grace?

Yes, through the Saviour who was promised when our first parents fell into sin.

Section 5.

About Christ.

41. Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the Eternal Son of God, who came as the son of man to live on this earth.

42. How did God show His love for sinful men?

"God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16).

43. What did Jesus do when He was on earth?

He went about doing good, healing the sick, and teaching men about the Kingdom of God.

44. What did our Lord Jesus Christ do to save us?

He was made man, suffered death in our stead, rose again from the dead, and went up into heaven.

45. What does the death of Christ on the cross teach us?

The death of Christ teaches us what a terrible thing sin is, and how much it cost to redeem us from its power.

46. What does the resurrection of Christ teach us?

The resurrection teaches us that as God raised Christ from the dead,

so He will give us power to live a new life of righteousness.

47. When Jesus Christ rose from the dead, where did He go then?

After Jesus Christ rose from the dead, He ascended into heaven.

48. What did Jesus promise His disciples before He went back to heaven?

Jesus promised to send them the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

49. When was this promise fulfilled?

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended upon all the disciples in Jerusalem.

50. Can we also have the Holy Spirit now?

God gives the Holy Spirit to all those who believe in Jesus and obey Him.

51. What is the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts?

The work of the Holy Spirit is to make us holy, and to guide us into all truth.

52. What must we do to be saved?

Repent of our sins and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour (Acts 3:19; 16:31).

53. Will all then be saved?

No; only those will be saved who accept the salvation Christ has provided. If they will cling to their sins, and reject salvation, they will be forever lost (Psa. 9:17).

54. What is it to repent?

To repent is to be sorry for our sins, to confess and turn from them and to seek forgiveness from God.

55. What is it to believe in Jesus Christ?

To believe in Jesus Christ is to receive His words, and to trust in Him alone for salvation.

56. Can we repent and believe without God's help?

We cannot repent or believe of ourselves; but God will help us by His Holy Spirit if we ask of Him.

57. What is the state of those who do not forsake their sins and believe in Jesus Christ?

The wrath of God abideth on them.

58. Why does not God take away the wicked at once?

He gives sinners time to repent.

59. What will become of those who do not repent?

After death they will be cast out of God's presence forever.

60. What benefits come to those who have been saved from sin?

The assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, and the hope of eternal glory.

61. What is it to be a true Christian?

To love God with all the heart and soul, mind and strength, and our neighbour as ourselves.

*(*Matt. 22:37-40.*)*

62. When once saved, how shall we keep from again falling into sin?

By continual watchfulness, the study of God's word, prayer, and a life of faith in the Son of God. (Mark 14:38.)

63. What is prayer?

In prayer we are brought into communion with God, and we ask Him for what we need.

64. Can God hear us when we speak to Him?

God always hears us, and he will not refuse the prayers of anyone who prays to Him in sincerity.

65. Does God always give us what we ask from Him in prayer?

God will give us what we ask for, if it is according to His will, when He sees it is good for us.

66. How are we to live for Him?

By seeking to do His will in all things.

67. What must we give up if we want to serve God?

We must give up all idol worship (or the religion of Mohammed) and charms, and everything that dishonours God.

68. What is the duty of a Christian?

It is the duty of every Christian to follow the example of Jesus Christ, to deny himself, and to help to spread the Gospel.

69. How can we follow the example of Jesus Christ?

By studing His words in the Bible, which we ought to learn to read in our own language.

70. What does it mean to deny ourselves?

To deny ourselves means to put God first, and to do His Holy will rather than to follow our own desires and appetites.

71. How can we help to spread the Gospel?

We can help to spread the Gospel by praying for God's work, by giving our money for it, and by teaching other people.

72. What are the two great commandments?

The two great commandments are to love God with all our hearts, and to love our fellow men as we love ourselves.

Section 7.

About Death, Judgment And Eternity.

73. What is death?

It is the end of our earthly life, when the soul is separated from the body.

74. What will happen at the end of the world?

God will judge all men by Jesus Christ at the last day.

75. What comes after the Great Judgment?

The separation of those who belong to Christ from those who do not belong to Him.

76. What will be the portion then of those who belong to Christ?

They will enjoy life everlasting with God in heaven, the home of God, where no sin, nor sorrow, nor pain, nor death can ever enter.

77. What will be the portion of those who reject Christ?

Eternal separation from God in the place of punishment, prepared for the Devil and his angels.

78. What is the preparation we need for heaven?

We must be pure in heart and live a life of love and service to Jesus Christ our Saviour, who loved us and gave Himself for us.

(Matt. 5:8;Gal. 2:20.)

79. Do we know when death will come to us?

We do not, but we are sure it will come to all. (Eccl. 8:8; Rom. 5:12.)

80. How, then, shall we be ready for death and a happy eternity?

"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

(Rev. 2:10.)

Section 8.

About The Church.

81. What is the Church?

The Church is the company of believers in Jesus Christ all over the world.

82. Who is the Head of the whole Church?

Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, and He watches over it, and has promised never to leave it.

83. What work has God given the Church to do?

The work that God has given the Church to do is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and thus to prepare for His return.

84. What preparation does one need to join the Church?

A deep sense of the need of Christ as a personal Saviour and a hearty acceptance of Him.

85. What are the sacraments of the Church?

The Lord's Supper and Baptism.

86. What is the Lord's Supper?

The partaking of bread and wine in memory of the sufferings and death of our Saviour.

87. What is Baptism?

Baptism is the outward sign of the new birth through faith in Jesus Christ.

88. What must we do first in order to be baptised?

Before we can be baptised we must truly repent and be assured of the forgiveness of all our sins, of the new birth unto righteousness, and our adoption as God's children.

89. Why should all who believe in Jesus Christ be baptised?

Because He commanded that those who believe in Him should be baptised with water in the Name of the Trinity.

90. Does baptism itself save us?

Baptism itself cannot save any one, but only faith in Jesus Christ.

PART II.

Section. 9.

About Temperance,

91. What is Temperance?

Temperance is wise self-control, the moderate use of good things and total abstinence from evil things.

92. What is the most common form of intemperance?

The use of intoxicating drinks.

93. What is an intoxicating drink?

Any drink that contains alcohol.

94. Name some intoxicating drinks.

Rum, gin, beer, whiskey, wines, stout, palm wine.

95. What is alcohol?

It is a liquid poison.

96. Does temperance allow a moderate use of poisons?

It does not, for poisons are injurious even in small quantities.

97. What happens to one who drinks alcoholic liquors in small quantities?

He acquires an appetite for more and it may lead to habitual and excessive drinking.

98. What happens to one who drinks alcoholic liquors to excess?

He gets drunk.

99. Why does he get drunk?

Because alcohol being a poison affects the brain and makes the one who drinks it crazy.

100. Is the use of alcoholic drinks injurious?

Yes. It injures both body and mind; it hinders digestion; weakens the heart; deadens the nerves; dulls the brain and intellect; impairs the whole body and tends to shorten life.

101. How does drinking tend to affect a man's moral life?

It deadens the conscience, which tells us the right from the wrong, and when a man is under the influence of liquor he may do bad acts and commit crimes that he would not think of doing when sober.

102. Is the money that is spent for strong drink wasted?

It is worse than wasted, for it brings trouble and poverty and death.

103. What could be done if the money spent for strong drink were saved?

It would buy food, clothing, books, and a great many other good things.

104. What would be the result if all people would abstain from the use of strong drink?

This would be a much better and happier world in which to live.

105. What can we do for temperance?

We should first of all learn how harmful alcohol is, and then we should never touch, taste or handle it.

106. Should we all take a pledge to do this?

Yes, and the stronger the better.

107. What is the advantage of such a pledge?

Those who keep it will never become drunkards.

108. What is the rule of the United Brethren Church respecting the use of intoxicating drinks?

The distilling, vending, and using of intoxicating drinks as a beverage are forbidden.

109. Is the Church then a temperance society?

It is, and one of the best, and all who join it promise to practice the principles of temperance.

110. Is the use of tobacco a form of intemperance?

It is.

111. What is tobacco?

It is a poisonous plant.

112. How do we know that it is poisonous?

Because it will make those not accustomed to its use sick when they take it into their mouths.

113. What is the effect of this poison?

It injures the bodies and minds of those who use it.

114. What form of the use of tobacco is especially harmful to boys?

Cigarette smoking.

115. What kind of pledge ought all to take with respect to tobacco?

A pledge never to use it in any form.

116. What does our Church advice respecting the use of tobacco?

It advises all its members to wholly abstain from its use in every form.

117. Will the Church license persons to preach the gospel who use tobacco?

It will not.

118. What can we do to destroy this filthy, expensive, and harmful tobacco habit?

We can refuse to use it ourselves, and so set a good example to others.

Section 10.

The Bible and Temperance.

119. What does the Bible teach us about self-control?

That he is better "that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." (Prov. 16: 32.)

120. What does this mean?

That the truest success in life requires self-mastery.

121. When should one learn to be master of himself?

When he is young.

122. Does the Bible speak of temperance children?

It tells of several who lived in Bible times.

123. What are some of their names?

Samuel and Samson, Daniel and his three friends and John the Baptist.

124. How did Samuel become a total abstainer?

His mother taught him temperance principles and kept him pure until he was old enough to watch over himself.

125. Was she a strictly temperance woman?

She said to the priest: "I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the Lord." (I Sam. 1:15.)

126. For what was Samson noted?

His great strength.

127. What noble purpose had Daniel?

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank." (Dan. 1:8.)

128. Did the total abstinence of Daniel and his friends injure them?

"So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days. And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat." (Dan. 1:14, 15.)

129. How was John the Baptist honoured?

He was a bright and shining light in the world and prepared the way for the coming and work of Jesus.

130. Does true temperance tend to success in life?

"Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things." (I Cor. 9:25.)

131. What is the fruit of the spirit?

"The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." (Gal. 5:22, 23.)

132. Why should we avoid strong drink?

Because "wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." (Prov. 20:1.)

133. Why should we not associate with wine-drinkers?

"Be not among wine-bibbers; among riotious eaters of flesh; for the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty; and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags."
(Prov. 23:20, 21.)

134. "Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contention? Who hath babblings? Who hath wounds without cause? Who hath redness of eyes?" (Prov. 23:29.)

"They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine."
(Prov. 23:30.)

135. How can we avoid these evils?

"Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright." (Prov. 23:31.)

136. What will be the result if not avoided?

"At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."
(Prov. 23:32.)

137. Will an appetite for strong drink excuse the use of it?

"Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue unto night, until wine inflame them."
(Isa. 5:11.)

138. Is there anything wrong in inducing others to use strong drink?

"Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour strong drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and makest him drunken also." (Hab. 2:15.)

139. Does the good of others require us to abstain from strong drink?

"It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak." (Rom. 14:21.)

140. With what sins does the Apostle Paul place drunkeness?

With idolatry, strife, and murder. (Gal. 5:19-21.)

141. What should we always remember about our bodies?

That they are God's temples, and should be kept pure and clean, fit for Him to live in. (I Cor. 6:19.)

142. Can the drunkard go to heaven?

"Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." (1. Cor. 6:10.)

143 What should be our rule concerning all intoxicating drinks?

"Abstain from all appearance of evil." (I Thes. 5:22.)

"Touch not; taste not; handle not." (Col. 2:21.)

PART III.

Section 11.

About Mohammedanism.

144. How do we know that Christianity is the only one true religion?

Because Jesus has told us "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me."

145. Who was the founder of the Mohammedan religion?

Mohammed, an Arab who lived in Arabia 600 years after Christ, and who called himself the prophet of God.

146. What is their religion founded upon?

It is founded upon the Koran which Mohammed wrote in the Arabic and which only learned men can read intelligently.

147. What does the Koran contain?

The Koran contains some true stories from the Bible, mixed with many other things some of which are not true.

148. How do we know that it is not a book sent by God?

Because it pretends to take the place of the Bible, and because we find in it things that we know are not right.

149. Name some of the things taught in the Koran contrary to christian teaching?

Having four wives and many concubines, permission to make slaves, and hating and killing people because they are of another religion.

150. What do the Mohammedans think about their prophet?

They think that Mohammed will intercede for them at the last Day of Judgment.

151. Did Mohammed himself ever promise to intercede for them?

No. Mohammed never said that, but he himself acknowledged that he was a sinner, and prayed God for forgiveness.

152. What do Mohammedans believe about their heaven (aljana)?

That it is a place where they will have hundreds of wives, and enjoy themselves and feast, as men do here on earth.

153. What does the Mohammedan religion require them to do?

To say the "Kalima," to give alms, say the prayers five times a day, to keep the Fast and to go on the pilgrimage to Mecca.

154. Are these things able to bring salvation to any one?

No. Only faith in Jesus Christ whom God sent can save a man.

155. What else do the Mohammedans in this country believe in?

They like to make and wear

charms, which they believe will help and protect them.

156. What good things are there in the Mohammedan religion?

Their belief in one God, and their separation from idols.

157. What does a true religion provide to help men?

A Saviour Who can intercede for us with God, a way to get power to live a holy life, and an inspired Book sent from God.

158. How do we know then that Mohammedanism is not a true religion?

Because it has no Saviour to tell about, it gives no power to live a holy life, and the book it has is not from God.

159. What things are there in Mohammedanism that are especially wrong?

The way it denies that Jesus is the Son of God, and that He died on the cross; and the permission it gives to slavery, polygamy, and to divorce for any reason at all.

160. Why is it wrong to catch and sell men as slaves?

Because we ought to do to others as we would like them to do to ourselves, and because God has made all men free.

161. Why is it wrong to have more than one wife?

Because in the beginning God

made one woman for one man, and because Jesus has told us that the husband and wife become one.

162. Is it right that a man should divorce his wife whenever he wants to?

No. It is a sin to divorce a wife for any cause except for adultery.

PART IV.

SUPPLEMENT.

1. The Lord's Prayer.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

2. The Ten Commandments.

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or the likeness of anything that is in the heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

VI. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man servant, nor thy maid servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V. Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbour's.

3. The Beatitudes.

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4. The Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

5, The Confession of Faith.

ADOPTED BY VOTE, 1888—RATIFIED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, 1889.

In the name of God, we declare and confess before all men the following articles of our belief:

ARTICLE I.

Of God and the Holy Trinity.

We believe in the only true God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; that these three are one—the Father in the Son, the Son in the Father, and the Holy Ghost equal in essence or being with the Father and the Son.

ARTICLE II.

Of Creation and Providence.

We believe this triune God created the heavens and the earth, and all that in them is, visible and invisible; that he sustains, protects, and governs these with gracious regard for the welfare of man, to the glory of his name.

ARTICLE III.

Of Jesus Christ.

We believe in Jesus Christ; that he is very God and man; that he became incarnate by the power of the Holy Ghost and was born of the Virgin Mary; that he is the Savior and Mediator of the whole human race, if they with full faith accept the grace proffered in Jesus; that this Jesus suffered and died on the cross for us.

was buried, arose again on the third day, ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, to intercede for us; and that he will come again at the last day to judge the living and the dead.

ARTICLE IV.

Of the Holy Ghost.

We believe in the Holy Ghost; that he is equal in being with the Father and the Son; that he convinces the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; that he comforts the faithful and guides them into all truth.

ARTICLE V.

Of the Holy Scriptures.

We believe that the Holy Bible, Old and New Testaments, is the Word of God; that it reveals the only true way to our salvation; that every true Christian is bound to acknowledge and receive it by the help of the Spirit of God as the only rule and guide in faith and practice.

ARTICLE VI.

Of the Church.

We believe in a holy Christian Church, composed of true believers, in which the word of God is preached by men divinely called, and the ordinances are duly administered; that this divine institution is for the maintenance of worship, for the edification of believers, and the conversion of the world to Christ.

ARTICLE VII.

Of the Sacraments.

We believe the Sacraments, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, are to be in use in the church, and should be practised by all Christians; but the mode of baptism and the manner of observing the Lord's Supper are always to be left to the judgment and understanding of each individual. Also, the baptism of children shall be left to the judgment of believing parents.

The *example* of washing of feet is to be left to the judgment of each one, to practise or not.

ARTICLE VIII.

Of Depravity.

We believe man is fallen from original righteousness, and apart from the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, is not only entirely destitute of holiness, but is inclined to evil, and only evil, and that continually: and that except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of heaven.

ARTICLE IX.

Of Justification.

We believe that penitent sinners are justified before God, only by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and not by works; yet that good works in Christ are acceptable to God, and spring out of a true and living faith.

ARTICLE X.

Of Regeneration and Adoption.

We believe that regeneration is the renewal of the heart of man after the image of God, through the Word, by the act of the Holy Ghost, by which the believer receives the spirit of adoption and is enabled to serve God with the will and the affections.

ARTICLE XI.

Of Sanctification.

We believe sanctification is the work of God's grace, through the Word and the Spirit, by which those who have been born again are separated in their acts, words, and thoughts from sin, and are enabled to live unto God, and to follow holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

ARTICLE XII.

Of the Christian Sabbath.

We believe the Christian Sabbath is divinely appointed; that it is commemorative of our Lord's resurrection from the grave, and is an emblem of our eternal rest; that it is essential to the welfare of the civil community, and to the performance and growth of the Christian church, and that it should be reverently observed as a day of holy rest and of social and public worship.

ARTICLE XIII.

Of the Future State.

We believe in the resurrection of the dead, the future general judgment, and an eternal state of rewards in which the righteous dwell in endless life, and the wicked in endless punishment.